IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, as follows:

--This is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/933,162, filed on August 21, 2001, and allowed on July 28, 2003.--

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 9 and ending at line 21, with the following paragraph.

--In means to solve the foregoing problems, this invention proposes a sheet conveying apparatus comprising: a conveying means for conveying a sheet to a prescribed position; a pair of reverse-discharge rotating members capable of rotating forward and reverse for feeding the sheet to the conveying means by switchback; and an electricity removal means for removing electricity from the conveyed sheet; wherein the switchback serves to feed a sheet having a maximum conveyable length from the pair of reverse-discharge rotating members to the conveying means; and wherein the electricity removal means is arranged ~~nearer toward~~ downstream in a sheet discharging direction ~~than~~ from a cross over position for a front edge of the sheet and a back edge o the sheet during discharge of the sheet after having passed the prescribed position, and passed the pair of reverse-discharge rotating members again.--

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22 and ending at page 6, line 4, with the following paragraph.

--Owing to this invention, removal of electricity for a discharged original document could steadily be performed and stacking performance could be improved by

means of feeding a sheet of a maximum conveyable length to a conveying means from a pair of reverse-discharge rotating members by switchback, and arranging an electricity removal means for removing electricity at a position downstream in ~~nearer toward~~ the sheet discharging direction ~~than~~ from the cross over position of the front edge and the rear edge of the original document when being discharged after passing a prescribed position and passing the pair of reverse-discharge rotating members once again.--

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 2 and ending at line 26, with the following paragraph.

--The electricity removal needle 17 of this embodiment is arranged in a position shown in FIG. 3. The following structure is selected so as to avoid stacking trouble where the front edge of the original document would not contact with the electricity removal needle 17 when crossing over during the switchback conveyance process, and to avoid trouble where the original document is electrified due to lack of electricity removal. In other words, the position of the electricity removal needle 17 is to be specified. In a case where the distance between the electricity removal needle 17 and the pair of reverse-discharge rollers 13a, 13b is L1, the distance between the pair of reverse-discharge rollers 13a, 13b and the secondary register roller 5 on the lead roller 6 is L2, the distance between the secondary register roller 5 and the primary register roll 7 is L3, the distance between the primary lead roll 7 and the secondary lead roll 12 is L4, and the distance between the secondary lead roll 12 and the pair of reverse-discharge rollers 13a, 13b is L5, the cross over position of the front edge and the read edge would be defined at an upstream side of the electricity removal needle 17, and the electricity removal needle 17 would be arranged

~~nearer toward~~ downstream in the sheet discharging direction ~~than~~ from the cross over position of the original document, by means of setting the length of a switchback conveyance path (L1, L2, L3, L4, L5) in relation with a maximum original document length L into L<2L1+L2+L3+L4+L5. In other words, by adjusting the total length of the switchback conveyance path, the cross over position of the front edge and the rear edge when conveying a original document of maximum original document length would be defined to be positioned between the electricity removal needle 17 and the pair of reverse-discharge rollers 13a, 13b.--

Please substitute the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 11 and ending at line 20, with the following paragraph.

--In FIG. 4, another embodiment of this invention regarding an original document processing apparatus is shown. Although the electricity removal needle 17 in the aforementioned embodiment is arranged above the original document, the electricity removal needle 17 for this embodiment is arranged below the original document. It is now to be noted that also in this embodiment, the front edge of the original document would not overlap with the rear edge and a state of no electricity removal for the entire original document could be prevented, by disposing the electricity removal needle 17 ~~nearer toward~~ downstream in the sheet discharging direction ~~than~~ from the cross over position of the front edge and the rear edge of the original document.--.